

# Medical Examiner Practicalities

Elizabeth Kinnison, MD

Assistant Chief Medical Examiner  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner  
Tidewater District

# § 32.1-283: ME jurisdiction

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- Trauma, injury, violence, poisoning, fire or unnatural manners
  - Suicide
  - Accident
  - Homicide (including terrorism, child & elder abuse)
- Unusual or suspicious
- In custody
  - DBHDS (mental health) custody
  - Jail, prison, correctional institution, police custody
- Unattended by doctor
- Suddenly and in apparent good health
- SIDS
- Cremation and burial at sea

# Role of LME

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- Examine the undressed body, complete body diagram, obtain toxicology specimens (including hospital samples), promptly sign DC, scene response
- Cremation authorization (CME-5)
- Seek consultation and assistance from the District office

# LME Expectations

## Professionalism

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- Provide high quality service to the citizens of the Commonwealth while performing the duties of the Local Medical Examiner
- Confidentiality
- Availability
- Professional manner and dress
- Email addresses
- Maintain a unrestricted professional license and driver's license

# LME Expectations

## Training

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- Initial orientation at the district office
- Attend at least one LME conference every 3 years (term of appointment)
- Future: On-line annual training in TRAIN Virginia
- Contact district office for additional training, questions, or concerns
  - LME consultation

# LME Expectations

## Death certificates

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- Enroll in EDRS and certify all ME cases in EDRS
- Do not share login and pin information
- Certify the death certificate following the completion of an external examination

# Death certificates

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- Provide statistical information
  - Identify, plan and evaluate to improve public health
  - Apportion funding
- Family interest
  - Answers, closure
  - Cremation permit, transit permit
  - Estate settlement
  - Benefits and insurance
  - Funeral arrangements
- Legal, court interest

# Completion of Death Certificate

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- Death certificates shall be completed within 24 hours by a physician in charge of the patient's care if the medical examiner declines jurisdiction
- In the absence of a treating physician:
  - Partner, a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, the chief medical officer of the institution, hospitalists, ED physicians, or the autopsy physician
  - Physicians from bordering states may sign for their patients
- Certify cause of death
  - Best medical opinion
  - Civil immunity
  - Use black



# The Medical Certification

Cause of Death		Case#: 276779; Decedent: MELINDA
<a href="#">NCHS Recommendations for entry of Cause of Death</a> Enter the diseases, injuries or complications that caused the death. Do not enter the mode of dying, such as cardiac or respiratory arrest, shock, or heart failure. Enter only one cause on a line.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if Cause of Death has not yet been determined or is PENDING		
	Cause of Death	Interval between Onset and Death
Line(a)	<div>Immediate Cause (Final disease or condition resulting in death)</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>Maximum Text Length: 120 Characters Left: 120</div>
Line(b)	<div>Due or as a consequence of</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>Maximum Text Length: 120 Characters Left: 120</div>
Line(c)	<div>Due or as a consequence of</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>Maximum Text Length: 120 Characters Left: 120</div>
Line(d)	<div>Due or as a consequence of</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>Maximum Text Length: 120 Characters Left: 120</div>
	<div>Other Significant Conditions</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>Maximum Text Length: 240 Characters Left: 240</div>
<div>Save</div> <div>Undo</div> <div>Previous</div> <div>Next</div>		

# Cause of death statements:

## General principals

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- One condition per line
- Each condition should be caused by the one below
- Can combine temporally related conditions i.e., hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
- Consider use of probable
- Qualify a specific COD with unknown natural cause i.e., gastrointestinal hemorrhage due to undetermined natural cause

# Cause of death statements:

## General principals

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- Mechanism or mode
  - The terminal physiologic event
  - Examples: Sepsis, exsanguination, organ failure, DIC
  - Cardiopulmonary, cardiac and respiratory arrest are descriptions of death
- Generally unnecessary
- Not sufficient as a sole cause

# Cause of death

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- Immediate or dependent cause

- Final disease, injury or complication leading to death
- Complications or sequelae of the underlying cause
- Mechanisms or terminal conditions

- **Underlying or proximate cause**

- The disease, illness or injury that precipitated or initiated the chain of events leading to death

## Other significant conditions

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- Other significant conditions present at and which contributed but were not related to the immediate cause of death.
- Test is whether the person would have lived with if the primary COD had not killed the person

# LME Certification of Death

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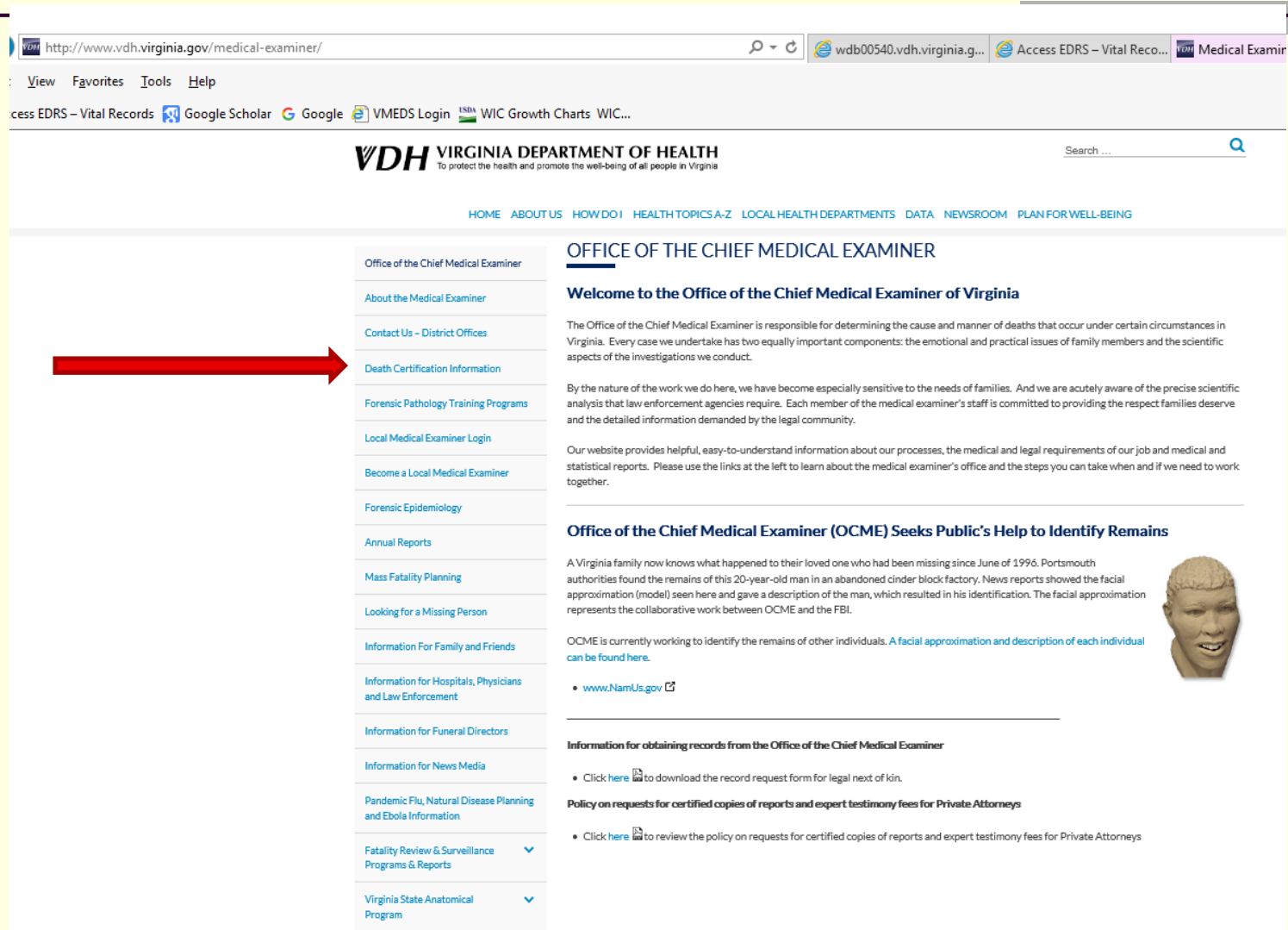
- Based on the LME's physical examination (if no autopsy), medical history (including clinical review if applicable), and circumstances of death
- Do not use unknown or undetermined
- Pending used in consultation with the District
  - Do not add to Other Significant Conditions if the main COD is pending
- Death certificate amendments
  - Medical Certification portion only
  - Add incomplete information
  - Change or finalize existing Medical Certification because of after-coming information
  - Competed by the District Office

# Physicians unwilling to sign

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- Role of medical examiner
  - Evidence of current medical treatment
    - History, medicines, PMP, EMR
  - Ascertain the provider's discomfort
    - Ensure recognition of an unnatural death
  - Suggest possible COD based on treatment history
- Role of Local Health Directors & Local Registrars
- **Call in turn downs**

# www.vdh.virginia.gov/medical-examiner



The screenshot shows the website <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medical-examiner/>. The header includes the VDH logo and the text "VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH To protect the health and promote the well-being of all people in Virginia". A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main navigation menu includes links for HOME, ABOUT US, HOW DO I, HEALTH TOPICS A-Z, LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, DATA, NEWSROOM, and PLAN FOR WELL-BEING.

The left sidebar contains a list of links, with a red arrow pointing to "Death Certification Information":

- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- About the Medical Examiner
- Contact Us – District Offices
- Death Certification Information
- Forensic Pathology Training Programs
- Local Medical Examiner Login
- Become a Local Medical Examiner
- Forensic Epidemiology
- Annual Reports
- Mass Fatality Planning
- Looking for a Missing Person
- Information For Family and Friends
- Information for Hospitals, Physicians and Law Enforcement
- Information for Funeral Directors
- Information for News Media
- Pandemic Flu, Natural Disease Planning and Ebola Information
- Fatality Review & Surveillance Programs & Reports
- Virginia State Anatomical Program

The main content area is titled "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER" and "Welcome to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Virginia". It contains the following text:

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is responsible for determining the cause and manner of deaths that occur under certain circumstances in Virginia. Every case we undertake has two equally important components: the emotional and practical issues of family members and the scientific aspects of the investigations we conduct.

By the nature of the work we do here, we have become especially sensitive to the needs of families. And we are acutely aware of the precise scientific analysis that law enforcement agencies require. Each member of the medical examiner's staff is committed to providing the respect families deserve and the detailed information demanded by the legal community.

Our website provides helpful, easy-to-understand information about our processes, the medical and legal requirements of our job and medical and statistical reports. Please use the links at the left to learn about the medical examiner's office and the steps you can take when and if we need to work together.

The section "Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) Seeks Public's Help to Identify Remains" includes the following text:

A Virginia family now knows what happened to their loved one who had been missing since June of 1996. Portsmouth authorities found the remains of this 20-year-old man in an abandoned cinder block factory. News reports showed the facial approximation (model) seen here and gave a description of the man, which resulted in his identification. The facial approximation represents the collaborative work between OCME and the FBI.

OCME is currently working to identify the remains of other individuals. [A facial approximation and description of each individual can be found here.](#)


- [www.NamUs.gov](http://www.NamUs.gov)

The section "Information for obtaining records from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner" includes the following text:

- Click [here](#) to download the record request form for legal next of kin.

The section "Policy on requests for certified copies of reports and expert testimony fees for Private Attorneys" includes the following text:

- Click [here](#) to review the policy on requests for certified copies of reports and expert testimony fees for Private Attorneys





# FAQ



DHP Home Page > Medicine > FAQ

Contact Us | Search DHP

GO

Board Home  
Board Members  
Meetings & Minutes  
Doctors' Profiles  
Renew Online  
Forms & Applications  
Laws & Regulations  
Guidance Documents  
News letters  
Disciplinary Proceedings  
FAQ  
Advisory Boards  
Update MD/DO/DPM Profile  
Info  
License Lookup  
Case Decisions  
File a Complaint  
Administrative Proceedings  
Division  
Staff Listing

## Virginia Board of Medicine Death Certification

Read the [letter from the State Health Commissioner and the Board of Medicine's Executive Director](#) on the Completion of Death Certificates

### Death Certification in Virginia: Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. As a physician licensed in Virginia, under what circumstances am I obligated to complete a death certificate?

By law in Virginia, you must complete a death certificate if you are the physician who was in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, unless the death was accepted for investigation by a medical examiner. When an investigation by the medical examiner is required, the medical examiner is required to determine cause of death and to complete the cause of death portion of the death certificate.

#### 2. When should a death be reported to the medical examiner?

Any death involving injury, trauma, poisoning, or deaths that are unexplained, sudden or suspicious in nature should be reported to the medical examiner. Deaths in correctional or state mental health facilities and deaths of persons not under the care of a Virginia physician should also be reported.

#### 3. Who is the "physician in charge" of a patient's care at the time of death?

If you have been providing medical care for a patient, you are in charge of their care, even if you are not his or her primary care physician. Any physician who provides care of a patient for a significant disease process can be responsible for signing the death certificate. This includes physician specialists who provide direct patient care. Prescription of medication for significant diseases, e.g. diabetes, hypertension, etc. is evidence of care.

#### 4. Are physicians working in health care facilities as hospitalists or emergency room physicians required to sign death certificates?

If an emergency room physician or a hospitalist pronounces the death of a patient or prescribes medication for a significant disease process, that physician is responsible for signing the death certificate. Virginia law is clear: "the physician last furnishing medical care to the deceased shall prepare and sign the medical certification portion of the death certificate." <sup>1</sup>

#### 5. Who else can sign a death certificate?

The physician in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death is primarily responsible. "In the absence of such physician or with his approval, the certificate may be completed and signed by the following: (i) another physician employed or engaged by the same professional practice; (ii) a physician assistant supervised by such physician; (iii) a nurse practitioner practicing as part of a patient care team; (iv) the chief medical officer or medical director, or his designee, of the institution, hospice, or nursing home in which death occurred; (v) a physician specializing in the delivery of health care to hospitalized or emergency department patients who is employed by or engaged by the facility where the death occurred; (vi) the physician who performed an autopsy upon the decedent; or (vii) an individual to whom the physician has delegated authority to complete and sign the certificate, if such individual has access to the medical history of the case and death is due to natural causes."<sup>1</sup>

# DC training

Menu

Notes

▼ 1. Death Certification Course

1.1. Death Certification

1.2. What is a Death Certificate?

1.3. Who Uses the Death Certifi...

1.4. Virginia Code § 32.1-263(C)

1.5. Who is Physician in Charge?

1.6. Who else May Sign?

1.7. When to Call Medical Exam...

1.8. How to Complete a Death ...

1.9. General Instructions

1.10. How to Complete a Death...

▼ 1.11. Cause of Death Section

1.11.1. Part I

1.11.2. Part I

1.11.3. Part I

1.11.4. Part II

▼ 1.12. Scenario 1

1.12.1. Scenario 1

▼ 1.13. Scenario 2

1.13.1. Scenario 2

▼ 1.14. Scenario 3

1.14.1. Scenario 3

1.14.2. Scenario 3

▼ 1.15. Scenario 4

1.15.1. Scenario 4

1.16. Where to Get Assistance?

1.17. How to get started in EDRS

1.18. Your Final Act of Patient ...

1.19. Thank you!

► 2. Quiz

► 3. Practice Scenarios


Death Certification Course

Resources


# Death Certification

## *Your Final Act of Patient Care*


Updated March 2017




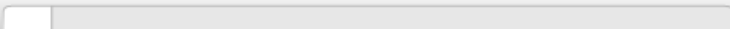
This presentation contains audio. If you do not have speakers, you can view the speaker notes by clicking the Notes tab on the left side of this window.





VDH VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH  
Protecting You and Your Environment














# Letter from the VDH and DHP



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C.  
Director

Department of Health Professions  
Perimeter Center  
9000 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov  
TEL (804) 367-4400  
FAX (804) 527-4475

August 1, 2014

Title: Completion of Death Certificates

Dear Clinician,

Many of you assist grieving families and assure that your patients' death certificates are completed in a timely manner. For that we thank you. However, there continue to be pockets of reluctance among some physicians to sign a death certificate which impacts families seeking the authority to proceed with the burial or cremation of a loved one.

Some of your patients will die at home and the family will need you to sign their loved one's death certificate as your last act of patient care. Of the 56,795 natural deaths occurring in Virginia during 2012, approximately 31% occurred at home. When a death occurs outside of a medical care facility (hospital, nursing home, etc.) local law enforcement often investigates the death to determine if there is evidence of an unnatural death (homicide, suicide, accident). Law enforcement may report these deaths to the medical examiner to allow them to confirm that the death is not a medical examiner case.

Most deaths that occur at home are not medical examiner cases. They are natural deaths from the typical chronic, progressive, or degenerative diseases such as hypertensive cardiovascular disease, atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or malignancy. For natural deaths, any health care provider who saw the patient or provided care (e.g., prescribed medication) for a patient's chronic illness or condition within the year prior to death is best informed to identify the "most probable" underlying cause of death and sign the death certificate.

The death certificate serves many extremely important purposes for the survivors of the deceased. This permanent legal record of vital information including demographics and the cause and manner of death is required for settling necessary affairs such as:

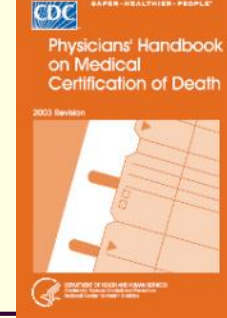
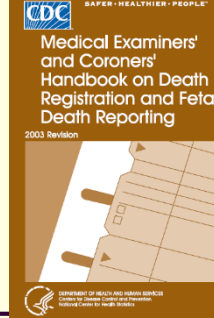
- Burial or cremation
- Accessing and/or closing bank accounts
- Probation of a will
- Estate settlement
- Obtaining proceeds from life insurance policies

# EDRS manual

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## **ELECTRONIC DEATH REGISTRATION SYSTEM (EDRS) USER MANUAL FOR THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER (OCME) & LOCAL MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

# Other resources



National Center for Health Stats:

**<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/training-and-instructional-materials.htm>**

(includes COD reporting training (CME credits), link to mobile app (Apple and Android), links to the reference guides pictured above, etc.)

# LME Expectations

## External examinations

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- Perform within 24 hours of district office notification
- If unable to complete the examination within the timeframe, immediately contact the district office
- Examinations only at the hospital and funeral homes
  - No external examinations at death scenes, Private homes, or non-funeral home business locations
- Fully undress, remove marks of therapy, and personal effects prior to examination
- Document natural disease, scars, marks of therapy, tattoos, personal effects, clothing, and injuries
- Place body diagram, toxicology paperwork, and toxicology specimens in the postmortem specimen collection kit
  - Office expects within 3 days of completing the external examination

Call District Office with concerns

# External examinations

What should give you concern?

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- MDI reports suspected traumatic death
  - Review of pertinent medical records does not support a traumatic death
  - External exam shows no fatal trauma
- Unsuspected trauma in a suspected natural or overdose
  - If may indicate a different COD
  - Inflicted

Call the District

# Autopsy Examinations

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- Authorized by CME, ME (ACME's are LME's, too!), Commonwealth's Attorney, Circuit Court Judge (§ 32.1-285)
- Family requests
  - If ME case is a “view” or “external”, the district office should be called by LME to discuss
  - If non-ME case, family will need to seek a private autopsy



# LME Expectations

## Specimen collection

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- 2 full tubes of blood, 1 tube of vitreous humor, and urine if possible
- Notify the district office immediately if you're unable to collect adequate specimens
- Place specimens in the postmortem specimen collection kit with toxicology paperwork diagram

# Specimen collection

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- Hospital samples, still obtain postmortem samples
  - Insufficient hospital samples
  - Aftercoming allegations
  - Use for DNA sample
- Use of red tops, gray tops
- Urine used to confirm heroin
- Vitreous used to support BAC and confirm heroin
- Document blood source (femoral, sternal notch, precordial, subclavian, etc.) aids in interpretation
- Tighten, tighten, tighten the screw tops
- Label at time of exam

# LME Expectations

## Scene response

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- Respond to the scene in a reasonable amount of time
- Survey the decedent at the scene without a full external examination
- Describing document evidence at the scene relating to the death as applicable
- Complete the death scene investigation report which includes a scene description and scene diagram
- Photographs to the district office via pre-arranged agreement
- Mail or delivered the paperwork to the district office within 24 hours of the scene response

# Scenes: When to go...

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- LEA request
- Multiple decedents
- Secondary scene
- Hanging
- Covert burial\*
- Time of death
- Personages
- Complex scene
  - Autoerotic
  - Serial killer
- Timing with police and funeral homes/removal services
- Cooperation with LEA

# Scenes: When not to attend

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- Inaccessibility of scene
- Crowd control issue
- Distance to scene
- Traffic congestion
- Practice responsibilities



Inform the district office if you are unable to attend. It may be more feasible for an investigator to respond to the scene.

# Importance of scene

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- Narrative description
- Diagram
  - Gives context to narrative and photographs
  - Need both to allow for payment
- Photographs

# Scene Diagrams

\* Payment for death scene visit requires completion of this report.

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Department of Health  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Decedent: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of ME/Investigator (circle) BRIAN J. MURKIN  
Signature of ME/Investigator (circle) Brian Murkin

Death Scene Investigation Report  
Scene Diagram

NOT TO SCALE

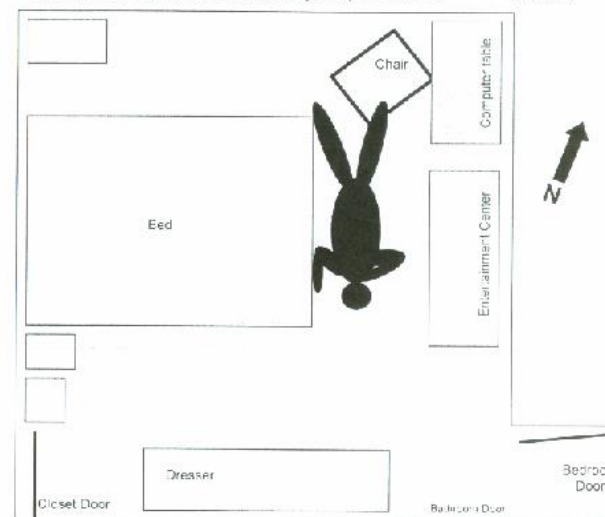
Commonwealth of Virginia  
Department of Health  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Decedent \_\_\_\_\_ 12010 11/08  
Name of ME/Investigator (circle) DAVID R. BALEYEN  
Signature of ME/Investigator (circle) David Baleyen

## Death Scene Investigation Report Scene Diagram 4

Death scene at 14509 Old Court House Way, Newport News, VA

6/18/2010



NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

\*Payment for death scene visit requires completion of both the  
Scene Investigation and Diagram pages.

# LME Expectations

## Cremation authorization

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- Independent arrangements with funeral service providers
- Purpose: assure that no cases which should be Medical Examiner cases are cremated without proper investigation
- Conduct authorizations only at hospital, crematory, or funeral home
- Thorough examination of the undressed decedent without medical therapy
- Review the signed death certificate prior to signing a cremation certificate (continued...)



# LME Expectations

## Cremation authorization

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- Question non-Medical DC containing a COD statement that may indicate a potential ME case
- COD statement is incomplete or contains only mechanisms, further inquiry is required
- Issues must be resolved before the authorization is signed and clarification may (should) be handwritten above the date line on the CME-5 form
- Cremation permit issued for deaths occurring in the Commonwealth of Virginia only
- Send copies of the CME-5 and signed DC to the district office within 5 business days

# Cremation Review

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- By review of the death certificate and examination of the body ensure that all *potentially* unnatural deaths are investigated *prior* to cremation
  - Permanent disposition
  - We want you to “catch” unsuspected or unreported ME cases
- Properly certified death certificate signed by a physician
  - Clarify (and educate) attending physicians about incomplete and insufficient COD *for cremation purposes*
  - Document followup on cremation form
  - Not ME role to police or improve the death certificate
  - COD on DC and CME-5 should correlate
- Properly identified\*
- Unclothed, examine all skin surface
- Only for deaths occurring in Virginia
- Required for fetal deaths investigated by ME, optional otherwise
- Attach copy of DC
- Refer FH to ME who signed the DC

# “Blood” in the Head

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- Intracranial and/or intracerebral hemorrhage
  - Likely trauma: subdural hemorrhage, epidural hemorrhage , intracerebral contusions
  - Natural: AVM, hemorrhagic metastasis, hemorrhagic stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage/berry aneurysm, etc.
- Falls
  - Terminal collapse v trauma
  - Request an autopsy if you cannot tell from external examination or hospital studies

# Hip fractures

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- Traumatic fracture versus pathological fracture.
- Underlying cause versus contributing finding:
  - Does it belong in COD or contributing factors
  - Ask the attending if the death would have occurred in the absence of the fracture
  - Temporal relationship with recognized complication: post-operative pneumonia, sepsis, acute massive pulmonary embolism or previously present diseases exacerbated by the hip fracture
- If a hip fracture is a pathological fracture...
  - Attending physician should be on GBDC and qualify as such
- If a hip fracture is a significant condition but not resulting in death
  - Attending physician should list it in the contributing factors section
  - Add other co-morbidities such as osteoporosis in significant conditions
- If truly traumatic and the underlying cause, then RBDC

# Mechanisms of death -

## Terminal physiological derangement

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- Sepsis, respiratory depression, cardiac dysrhythmia, hemorrhage, cardiac arrhythmia, cerebral hypoxia, cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest, pulmonary arrest, cardiopulmonary arrest, cardiac failure, heart failure, respiratory failure, kidney failure, hepatic failure, liver failure, end-stage liver disease, end-stage kidney disease, chronic kidney disease, respiratory insufficiency, cardiorenal syndrome, diastolic heart failure, systolic heart failure, exsanguination, septic shock, choking, hypothermia, hyperthermia, adult respiratory distress syndrome, diffuse alveolar damage, ventricular fibrillation/tachycardia, anoxic/hypoxic encephalopathy, aspiration, cerebral edema, failure to thrive, hepatorenal syndrome, shock, multisystem organ failure, status epilepticus, etc.

# The problem with pneumonia

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- While it's not a mechanism...
  - ...and it may be a primary disease process, i.e., lobar pneumonia due to *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
  - It may be secondary (and often is, particularly in hospitalized patients)

# Pneumonia examples

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## Natural

- Postobstructive pneumonia due to lung cancer (natural, non-ME)
- Bronchopneumonia due to complications of influenza A (natural, non-ME)
- Aspiration pneumonia due to multi-infarct dementia (natural, non-ME)
- Hospital acquired pneumonia due to complications of cholecystectomy due to gangrenous cholecystitis (natural, non-ME)

## Unnatural

- Bilateral aspiration pneumonia due to persistent vegetative state due to complications of blunt force head injury (ME case)
- Hospital acquired pneumonia due to complications of gunshot wound to the abdomen (ME case)
- Bronchopneumonia and sepsis due to neurogenic bladder and decubitus ulcers due to quadriplegia following remote cervical spine fracture (ME case)
- Aspiration pneumonia due to anoxic encephalopathy due to drug overdose

# Cremation reviews, I have seen

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- Septic shock, infected pressure ulcer
- Cardiac arrest due to hypertension due to pulmonary edema due to liver failure
- Renal failure due to hip fracture
- Recurrent pleural effusion due to sepsis due to pneumonia
- Cardiopulmonary arrest, bilateral pulmonary embolism
- Multisystem organ failure, hypotension, shock
- Severe sepsis, lithium toxicity, congestive heart failure
- Paraplegia due to MVA
- Intracranial hemorrhage
- Pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis
- End stage liver disease
- End stage renal disease
- Cardiorenal syndrome due to acute severe combined systolic and diastolic heart failure
- Septic shock due to C. difficile colitis due to multisystem organ failure related to sepsis
- Septic shock due to acute on chronic respiratory failure due to pneumonia
- Acute on chronic respiratory failure, pulmonary edema, diastolic heart failure
- Multisystem organ failure due to septic shock due to respiratory failure



# Cremation reviews, I have seen, continued

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- Advanced stage due to malnutrition due to recent left sacrum and pubic rami fractures
- Pneumonia, CVA, ASVD, subdural hematoma
- Intracerebral hemorrhage due to cerebral air embolism due to AML
- Arrhythmia due to cardiac arrest
- Aspiration pneumonia due to respiratory failure with severe malnourishment contributing
- Protein calorie malnutrition
- Comfort measures due to chronic respiratory failure due to end stage renal disease due to massive sacral decubitus ulcer
- Septic shock due to acute on chronic respiratory failure due to end stage renal disease due to calciphylaxis
- Multisystem organ failure
- Pulmonary embolism
- Subarachnoid hemorrhage
- Cardiac arrest, hypoxic encephalopathy
- Airway obstruction due to coronary artery disease, CVA, ALS
- Cardiopulmonary arrest, primary cardiac failure, fluid overload
- Pneumonia due to debility due to pelvic fracture
- Pending

# Cremation reviews, I have seen, continued

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- Sepsis due to multiple skin was due to protein calorie malnutrition
- Anoxic encephalopathy, sepsis, acute systolic heart failure, massive bilateral pulmonary embolism, multisystem organ failure
- Alcohol intoxication
- Septic shock due to failure to thrive due to acute kidney injury due to paraplegia
- Chronic respiratory failure due to seizure disorder due to anoxic encephalopathy/vegetative state due to cardiopulmonary arrest
- Asphyxia, aspiration
- Inanition
- Hemorrhagic shock, narcotics/NSAID use
- Pneumonia, pulmonary insufficiency
- Cardiac arrest due to acute respiratory failure due to C. difficile with malnutrition
- Sepsis from pneumonia and UTI
- Respiratory arrest due to cystic degeneration of the brain
- Asystole of unknown origin with anoxic brain injury and respiratory failure
- ARDS
- Upper GI bleed due to hypotension due to chronic kidney disease due to hypothermia
- Pneumonia due to kidney failure
- Pneumonia

# Cremation reviews, I have seen, continued

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- SUDEP, seizures
- Septic shock due to pneumonia due to respiratory failure
- Acute hypoxic respiratory failure due to bilateral pneumonia due to coagulopathy due to septic shock
- Cardiac arrest, septic shock, acute respiratory failure, acute renal failure
- Liver failure due to metabolic acidosis
- Failure to thrive
- Acute renal failure due to aspiration pneumonia
- Hypoxic encephalopathy due to heroin and polysubstance abuse due to MRSA tracheitis due to nicotine abuse
- Pulmonary embolism and multisystem organ failure
- Respiratory failure
- Ventricular fibrillation
- Severe sepsis due to Pseudomonas bacteremia
- Sepsis, decubitus ulcer, renal failure
- Cardiac arrest
- End stage liver failure
- Septic shock and multiorgan failure
- Failure to thrive
- Cardiogenic shock

# CDC Physician's Handbook, 2003

**When processes such as the following are reported, additional information about the etiology should be reported:**

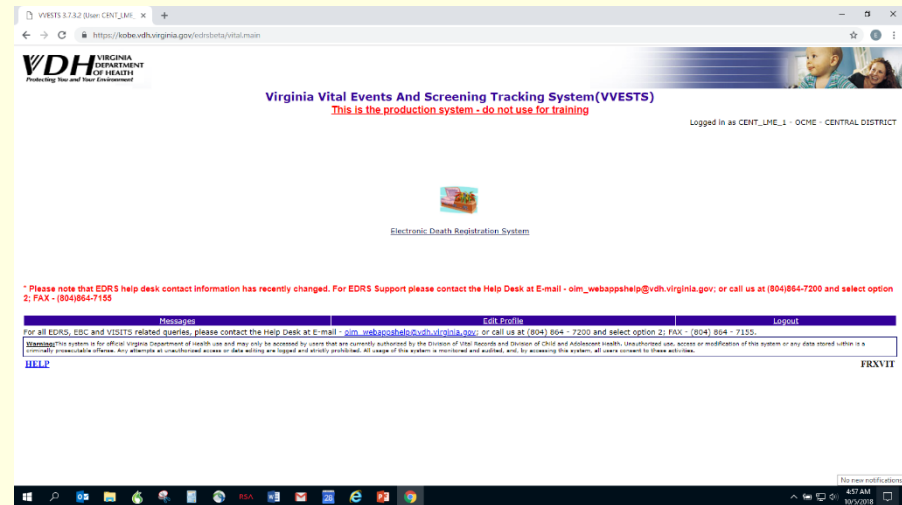
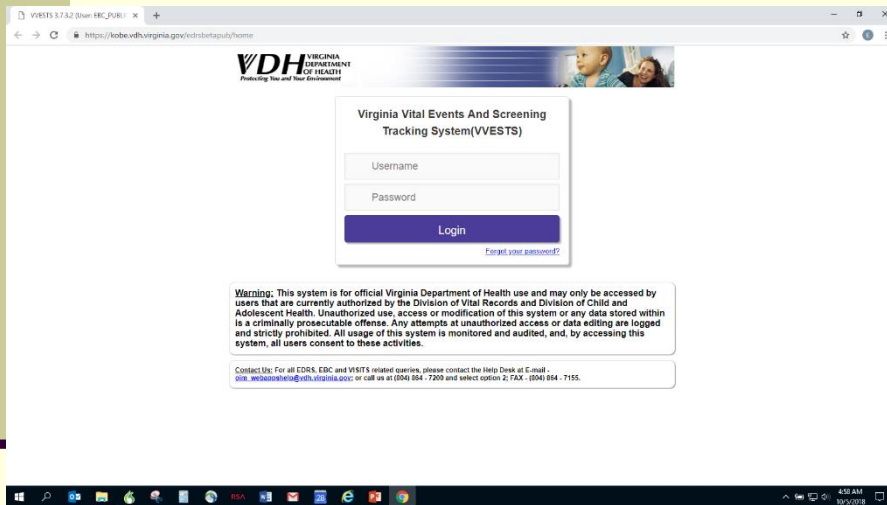
Abscess  
Abdominal hemorrhage  
Adhesions  
Adult respiratory distress syndrome  
~~Acute myocardial infarction~~  
Altered mental status  
Anemia  
Anoxia Anoxic encephalopathy  
Arrhythmia  
Ascites  
Aspiration  
Atrial fibrillation  
Bacteremia  
Bedridden  
Biliary obstruction  
Bowel obstruction  
Brain injury  
Brain stem herniation  
~~Carcinogenesis~~  
~~Carcinomatosis~~  
Cardiac arrest  
Cardiac dysrhythmia  
Cardiomyopathy  
Cardiopulmonary arrest  
Cellulitis  
Cerebral edema

~~Cerebrovascular accident~~  
Cerebellar tonsillar herniation  
Chronic bedridden state  
~~Cirrhosis~~  
Coagulopathy  
Compression fracture  
Congestive heart failure  
Convulsions  
Decubiti  
Dehydration  
~~Dementia~~ (when not otherwise specified)  
Diarrhea  
Disseminated intra vascular coagulopathy  
Dysrhythmia  
End-stage liver disease  
End-stage renal disease  
Epidural hematoma  
Exsanguination  
Failure to thrive  
Fracture  
Gangrene  
Gastrointestinal hemorrhage  
Heart failure

Hemothorax  
Hepatic failure  
Hepatitis  
Hepatorenal syndrome  
Hyperglycemia  
Hyperkalemia  
Hypovolemic shock  
Hyponatremia  
Hypotension  
Immunosuppression  
Increased intra cranial pressure  
Intra cranial hemorrhage  
Malnutrition  
Metabolic encephalopathy  
Multiorgan failure  
Multisystem organ failure  
~~Myocardial infarction~~  
Necrotizing soft-tissue infection  
~~Old age~~  
Open (or closed) head injury  
Pancytopenia  
Paralysis  
Perforated gallbladder

Peritonitis  
Pleural effusions  
Pneumonia  
Pulmonary arrest  
Pulmonary edema  
Pulmonary embolism  
Pulmonary insufficiency  
Renal failure  
Respiratory arrest  
Seizures  
Sepsis  
Septic shock  
Shock  
Starvation  
Subdural hematoma  
Subarachnoid hemorrhage  
Sudden death  
Thrombocytopenia  
Uncal herniation  
Urinary tract infection  
Ventricular fibrillation  
Ventricular tachycardia  
Volume depletion

# EDRS LME cremation approval requested by FH



# Left hand menu

WVESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1) x +

← → ↻ https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links? ☆ E ⋮

**VDH** VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Protecting Your and Your Environment

## Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

### Death Registration Menu

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- WVEST Menu
- Logout

### Recent Active Cases

#### Local Medical Examiner Cases

Case ID	Case Type	Decedent Name			Gender	DOB	DOD	Current Owner	Status
		First	Middle	Last					
<a href="#">1347</a>	RB - LME	SHELBY	DIANE	DUNSTON	FEMALE		08/02/2017	WOODY (SOUTH) FUNERAL HOME	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">56</a>	RB - LME	CHEER		LEADER	FEMALE		06/05/2013	WOODY (SOUTH) FUNERAL HOME	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">296</a>	RB - LME	SNOOPY		DOG	MALE		04/15/2014	BENNETT & BARDEN FUNERAL HOME, INC.	Personal Information Sign - Requested
<a href="#">1155</a>	RB - LME	BILL		BUMMER	MALE		04/10/2014	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Certification In-progress
<a href="#">1105</a>	RB - LME	SALLY		JOHNSON	FEMALE		02/08/2015	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Information Certified
<a href="#">1128</a>	RB - LME	BARNEY		STINSON	MALE		03/04/2015	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Certification Requested
<a href="#">242</a>	RB - LME	TOO		SLOW	MALE		12/12/2013	WOODY FUNERAL HOME (ATLEE)	Personal Information Sign - Requested
<a href="#">130</a>	RB - LME	ROWDY		YATES	MALE		06/10/2013	XYZ FUNERAL HOME (WEST END)	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">721</a>	RB - LME	PURPLE		PENGUIN	MALE		10/14/2014	XYZ FUNERAL HOME (SOUTHSIDE)	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">281</a>	RB - LME	TITAN		DUKE	MALE	11/20/1925	04/15/2014	HAMLAR-CURTIS FUNERAL HOME, INC.	Personal Information Completion In-progress

1 - 10 of 24 Click Active Cases for Complete list

**EDVHOM**

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_cremation.crc\_approve\_list

Windows taskbar: 4:59 AM 10/5/2018

# Search, scroll, or sort

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1)

← → ↻ https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links? ☆ E ⋮

VDH

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Protecting You and Your Environment

Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

Death Registration Menu

• Search All Cases

• Active Cases

• Cremation Approval

• Fetal Cremation Approval

• User Preferences

• Message Center

• EDRS Menu

• VVESTS Menu

• Logout

Cremation Approval List

Permit ID:

Case ID:

Decedent

First Name:

Last Name:

Date of Birth:  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Permit Status:

Permit Request Date:  To  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Case Creation Date:  To  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Middle Name:

Maiden Name:

Date of Death:  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Query

Undo

Awaiting Cremation Approval

Case ID	Permit ID	Decedent Name	Case Type	Gender	DOB	DOD	Request Type	Status
<a href="#">4</a>	1	JAMES,CLINTON	RB - LME	MALE		05/28/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">26</a>	2	HEMORRHAGE.INTERCRANIAL	RB - OCME	MALE	05/18/1978	05/29/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">25</a>	4	DOG,HOTT	RB - OCME	MALE	06/07/1990	05/29/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">11</a>	7	JOLIE,ANGELINA	RB - LME	FEMALE	09/15/1970	05/28/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">127</a>	8	SCHMOE,JOE	RB - OCME	MALE	02/15/1941	10/10/2010	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">125</a>	9	CANDLEFORD,ROBERT	RB - OCME	MALE	06/13/1890	06/11/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">129</a>	10	LOW,JAY	RB - LME	MALE	01/08/1950	06/10/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">55</a>	11	SMITH,MARY ANN	RB - OCME	FEMALE	03/18/1974	06/05/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">63</a>	21	BACON,CRISPY JUICY	RB - OCME	MALE	11/22/2011	12/25/2012	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">126</a>	83	SCHMO,JOE MO	RB - OCME	MALE	12/07/1941	06/11/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved

Your search returned 97 records. Records 1 through 10 are displayed.

Next 10 Records=>

EDLCCA

Windows Taskbar

5:00 AM 10/5/2018

# Sorting

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1)

←

→

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https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links?

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VDH

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Protecting Your And Your Environment

Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)

Facility: Ocme - Central District

Death Registration Menu

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- VESTS Menu
- Logout

Cremation Approval List

Permit ID:

Case ID:

Decedent

First Name:

Last Name:

Date of Birth:

(mm/dd/yyyy)

Permit Status

Query

Undo

Accepted by OCME

Rejected by OCME

Awaiting approval

Approved

Request awaiting manual signature

Permit Request Date:

To

(mm/dd/yyyy)

Case Creation Date:

To

(mm/dd/yyyy)

Middle Name:

Maiden Name:

Date of Death

(mm/dd/yyyy)

Awaiting Cremation Approval

Case ID	Permit ID		Case Type	Gender	DOB	DOD	Request Type	Status
4	1	JAMES CLINTON	RB - LME	MALE		05/28/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
26	2	HEMORRHAGE INTERCRANIAL	RB - OCME	MALE	05/18/1978	05/29/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
25	4	DOG HOTT	RB - OCME	MALE	06/07/1990	05/29/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
11	7	JOLIE ANGELINA	RB - LME	FEMALE	09/15/1970	05/28/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
127	8	SCHMOE JOE	RB - OCME	MALE	02/15/1941	10/10/2010	Cremation Certificate	Approved
125	9	CANDLEFORD ROBERT	RB - OCME	MALE	06/13/1890	06/11/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
129	10	LOW JAY	RB - LME	MALE	01/08/1950	06/10/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
55	11	SMITH MARY ANN	RB - OCME	FEMALE	03/18/1974	06/05/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
63	21	BACON CRISPY JUICY	RB - OCME	MALE	11/22/2011	12/25/2012	Cremation Certificate	Approved
126	83	SCHMO JOE MO	RB - OCME	MALE	12/07/1941	06/11/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved

Your search returned 97 records. Records 1 through 10 are displayed.

Next 10 Records=>

EDLCCA

Windows Taskbar

5:02 AM

10/5/2018



# Query after searching or sorting

VVESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_ x +

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links?



## Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

### Death Registration Menu

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- VVESTS Menu
- Logout

### Cremation Approval List

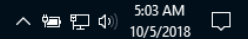
Permit ID:	<input type="text"/>	Permit Request Date:	<input type="text"/> To <input type="text"/> (mm/dd/yyyy)
Case ID:	<input type="text"/>	Case Creation Date:	<input type="text"/> To <input type="text"/> (mm/dd/yyyy)
Decedent			
First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Middle Name:	<input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>	Maiden Name:	<input type="text"/>
Date of Birth:	<input type="text"/> (mm/dd/yyyy)	Date of Death:	<input type="text"/> (mm/dd/yyyy)
Permit Status:	<input type="text" value="Awaiting approval"/>		
<input type="button" value="Query"/> <input type="button" value="Undo"/>			

### Awaiting Cremation Approval

Case ID	Permit ID	Decedent Name	Case Type	Gender	DOB	DOD	Request Type	Status
<a href="#">4</a>	1	JAMES,CLINTON	RB - LME	MALE		05/28/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">26</a>	2	HEMORRHAGE,INTERCRANIAL	RB - OCME	MALE	05/18/1978	05/29/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">25</a>	4	DOG,HOTT	RB - OCME	MALE	06/07/1990	05/29/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">11</a>	7	JOLIE,ANGELINA	RB - LME	FEMALE	09/15/1970	05/28/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">127</a>	8	SCHMOE,JOE	RB - OCME	MALE	02/15/1941	10/10/2010	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">125</a>	9	CANDLEFORD,ROBERT	RB - OCME	MALE	06/13/1890	06/11/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">129</a>	10	LOW,JAY	RB - LME	MALE	01/08/1950	06/10/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">55</a>	11	SMITH,MARY ANN	RB - OCME	FEMALE	03/18/1974	06/05/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">63</a>	21	BACON,CRISPY JUICY	RB - OCME	MALE	11/22/2011	12/25/2012	Cremation Certificate	Approved
<a href="#">126</a>	83	SCHMO,JOE MO	RB - OCME	MALE	12/07/1941	06/11/2013	Cremation Certificate	Approved

Your search returned 97 records. Records 1 through 10 are displayed.

EDLCCA



# After sorting

WVESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1) x +

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links?

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## Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

### Death Registration Menu

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- VVESTS Menu
- Logout

### Cremation Approval List

Permit ID:

Case ID:

Decedent

First Name:

Last Name:

Date of Birth:  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Permit Status:

Permit Request Date:  To  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Case Creation Date:  To  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Middle Name:

Maiden Name:

Date of Death:  (mm/dd/yyyy)

[Query](#) [Undo](#)

Awaiting Cremation Approval								
Case ID	Permit ID	Decedent Name	Case Type	Gender	DOB	DOD	Request Type	Status
<a href="#">777</a>	304	DOE,JANE ANNE	RB - OCME	FEMALE	01/01/1937	10/22/2014	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval
<a href="#">777</a>	305	DOE,JANE ANNE	RB - OCME	FEMALE	01/01/1937	10/22/2014	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval
<a href="#">1140</a>	343	SMITH,JOHN	Green Border	MALE	01/23/1945	04/07/2015	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval
<a href="#">1140</a>	344	SMITH,JOHN	Green Border	MALE	01/23/1945	04/07/2015	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval
<a href="#">1184</a>	429	RYDI,CREMATE	Green Border	MALE	04/01/1985	05/01/2016	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval
<a href="#">1184</a>	430	RYDI,CREMATE	Green Border	MALE	04/01/1985	05/01/2016	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval
<a href="#">20</a>	619	BORDEN,LIZZIE	RB - LME	FEMALE		06/01/1927	Cremation Certificate	Awaiting Approval

Your search returned 7 records. Records 1 through 7 are displayed.

**EDLCCA**

# Select approve cremation

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME) x +  
https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links?

**VDH** VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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**Electronic Death Registration System**

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

**Death Registration Menu**

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- VVESTS Menu
- Logout

**Case Summary**

[Preview Certificate](#) | [Approve Cremation](#) | [Back to List](#) Case History

<b>Case Type</b>	Red Border - LME	<b>Created By</b>	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT
Is this Case for Other District?	No	Is decedent body viewed at District?	No

<b>Case Id:</b>	20	<b>Status Details</b>	
<b>Demographics Status:</b>	Pending	<b>Signed By:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification Status:</b>	Certified (Completed)	<b>Certified By:</b>	CENT_LME_1, CENT_LME_1
<b>Current Status:</b>	Medical Information Certified	<b>Owned By:</b>	(CENT_LME_1, CENT_LME_1) OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT
<b>SSN Verification Status:</b>	Unknown	<b>Funeral Home:</b>	
<b>Date Created:</b>	05/29/2013 10:19:34 AM	<b>Date Last Modified:</b>	10/02/2018 12:10:47 PM

<b>Decedent</b>			
<b>Name:</b>	LIZZIE, BORDEN	<b>Gender:</b>	FEMALE
<b>Age:</b>		<b>Place of Birth:</b>	
<b>Date of Death:</b>	06/01/1927 00:00:00 AM	<b>Date of Birth:</b>	
<b>Decedent ever in Armed Forces ?:</b>		<b>Social Security Number:</b>	

<b>Residence Address</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	

<b>Decedent Personal Data</b>			
<b>Race:</b>		<b>Hispanic Origin:</b>	
<b>Education:</b>		<b>Country of Citizenship:</b>	
<b>Usual Occupation:</b>		<b>Kind of Business/Industry:</b>	

<b>Decedent Family Details</b>			
<b>Marital Status:</b>		<b>Decedent's spouse:</b>	
<b>Decedent's Father/Parent I:</b>		<b>Decedent's Mother/Parent I:</b>	

<b>Informant</b>			
<b>Name:</b>		<b>Relationship:</b>	

<b>Place of Death</b>	
<b>Facility Name/Other:</b>	BON SECOURS HOSPICE
<b>Address:</b>	121212 FAIR FAX HWY CENTREVILLE VIRGINIA 20122

<b>Disposition</b>			
<b>Method:</b>		<b>Place:</b>	

5:06 AM  
10/5/2018

# Date, affirm, pin, approve

WVESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1 x +)

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links?

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## Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

**Death Registration Menu**

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- WVESTS Menu
- Logout

**Approve - Cremation Request**

**Requester Details**

Funeral Home/Facility: A.L. BENNETT & SON FUNERAL HOME, INC.  
Address: 200 BUTTERNUT DRIVE FREDERICKSBURG VIRGINIA 22404

**Decedent Details**

First Name: LIZZIE Middle Name:  
Last Name: BORDEN Maiden Name:  
Age: Date Of Death: 06/01/1927  
Gender: FEMALE

**Decedent Race**

☐White ☐Black Or African American ☐Chinese ☐Japanese ☐Native Hawaiian ☐Filipino ☐Asian Indian ☐Korean ☐Samoan ☐Vietnamese ☐Guamanian Or Chamorro ☐American Indian Or Alaska Native Tribe(S)  
☐Oth.Asian Or Pac.Islander ☐Other Asian Specify ☐Other Pacific Islander Specify ☐Other Specify ☐Unknown

**Cause Of Death**

Line(a): acute heroin toxicity  
Line(b):  
Line(c):  
Line(d):

Date viewed by the examiner: 10/05/2018 (mm/dd/yyyy)

☒ I affirm under the penalty of perjury that I am the authorized signatory whose name will appear on this certificate

Enter Pin: \*\*\*\*\*  
Re: \*\*\*\*\*

Note: Entering your secure PIN and clicking on Submit will electronically sign this Death Permit. Your electronic signature is legally binding.

Status: Waiting for Approval

Approve Undo Back to List Print Preview

# Without FH starting, LME can start cremation, if FH is assigned

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1)

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links

**Electronic Death Registration System**

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

**Death Registration Menu**

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- VESTS Menu
- Logout

**Recent Active Cases**  
Local Medical Examiner Cases

Case ID	Case Type	Decedent Name			Gender	DOB	DOD	Current Owner	Status
		First	Middle	Last					
<a href="#">1347</a>	RB - LME	SHELBY	DIANE	DUNSTON	FEMALE		08/02/2017	WOODY (SOUTH) FUNERAL HOME	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">58</a>	RB - LME	CHEER		LEADER	FEMALE		06/05/2013	WOODY (SOUTH) FUNERAL HOME	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">296</a>	RB - LME	SNOOPY		DOG	MALE		04/15/2014	BENNETT & BARDEN FUNERAL HOME, INC.	Personal Information Sign - Requested
<a href="#">1155</a>	RB - LME	BILL		BUMMER	MALE		04/10/2014	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Certification In-progress
<a href="#">1105</a>	RB - LME	SALLY		JOHNSON	FEMALE		02/08/2015	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Information Certified
<a href="#">1128</a>	RB - LME	BARNEY		STINSON	MALE		03/04/2015	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Certification Requested
<a href="#">242</a>	RB - LME	TOO		SLOW	MALE		12/12/2013	WOODY FUNERAL HOME (ATLEE)	Personal Information Sign - Requested
<a href="#">130</a>	RB - LME	ROWDY		YATES	MALE		06/10/2013	XYZ FUNERAL HOME (WEST END)	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">721</a>	RB - LME	PURPLE		PENGUIN	MALE		10/14/2014	XYZ FUNERAL HOME (SOUTHSIDE)	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">281</a>	RB - LME	TITAN		DUKE	MALE	11/20/1925	04/15/2014	HAMLAR-CURTIS FUNERAL HOME, INC.	Personal Information Completion In-progress

1 - 10 of 24 Click Active Cases for Complete list

**EDVHOM**

5:17 AM  
10/5/2018

# After selecting decedent, choose Create/Print Forms

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1) x

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links

**Electronic Death Registration System**

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocmr - Central District

Case#: 242; Decedent: TOO, SLOW

**Death Registration Menu**

- Demographics
- Medical Certification
  - Place of Death
  - Determination of Death
  - Cause of Death
  - Other Factors
  - Certification
  - Assign to Funeral Home
- Case Validation
- Case Summary
- Case Comments
- Preview Certificate
- Create/Print Forms
- EDRS Menu
- Logout

**Case Summary**

[Back to List](#) [Case History](#)

**Case Type**

Case Type	Red Border - LME	Created By	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT
Is this Case for Other District?	No	Is decedent body viewed at District?	Yes

**Status Details**

Case Id:	242	Signed By:	
Demographics Status:	Case awaiting ownership	Certified By:	CENT_LME_1, CENT_LME_1
Medical Certification Status:	Certified (Completed)	Owned By:	WOODY FUNERAL HOME (ATLEE)
Current Status:	Personal Information Sign - Requested	Funeral Home:	WOODY FUNERAL HOME (ATLEE)
SSN Verification Status:	Unknown	Date Last Modified:	01/09/2015 02:07:21 PM
Date Created:	04/09/2014 11:18:58 AM		

**Demographics**

<b>Decedent</b>		<a href="#">Edit</a>	
Name:	TOO, SLOW	Gender:	MALE
Age:		Place of Birth:	
Date of Death:	12/12/2013 00:00:00 AM	Date of Birth:	
Decedent ever in Armed Forces ?:		Social Security Number:	
<b>Residence Address</b>		<a href="#">Edit</a>	
Address:			
<b>Decedent Personal Data</b>		<a href="#">Edit</a>	
Race:		Hispanic Origin:	
Education:		Country of Citizenship:	
Usual Occupation:		Kind of Business/Industry:	
<b>Decedent Family Details</b>		<a href="#">Edit</a>	
Marital Status:		Decedent's spouse:	
Decedent's Father/Parent II:		Decedent's Mother/Parent I:	
<b>Informant</b>		<a href="#">Edit</a>	
Name:		Relationship:	
<b>Place of Death</b>		<a href="#">Edit</a>	
Place of Death:	Correction Facility		
Facility Name/Other:	CAROLINE CORRECTIONAL UNIT		
Address:	31285 CAMP ROAD HANOVER VIRGINIA 23069		

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_permits.print\_forms\_links?p\_case\_id=242

5:18 AM  
10/5/2018

# Choose Create/New

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1) x +

← → ↻ https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links ☆ E ⋮

**VDH** VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Protecting You and Your Environment

## Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

Case#: 242; Decedent: TOO, SLOW

### Death Registration Menu

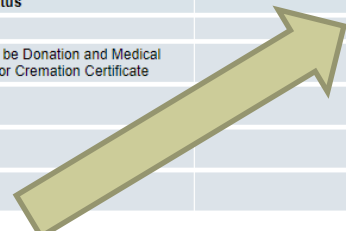
- ▼ Demographics
- ▼ Medical Certification
  - Place of Death
  - Determination of Death
  - Cause of Death
  - Other Factors
  - Certification
  - Assign to Funeral Home
- Case Validation
- Case Summary
- Case Comments
- Preview Certificate
- Create/Print Forms
- EDRS Menu
- Logout

### Form/Permit Information

Form/Permit	Description	Status	
Cremation Certificate	Permit required to dispose of body remains by cremation	New/Pending	<a href="#">Create/New</a>
Cremation Certificate (Donation)	Permit required to dispose of (Donated)body remains by cremation	Method of disposition needs to be Donation and Medical Certification must be created for Cremation Certificate	N/A
Disinterment, Transit and Reinterment Permit	Permit required to remove, transport or reinter the body from Virginia Cemetery.	Not Applicable	
Out-of-state Transit Permit	Permit required to move the body of the person whose death occurs or found in Commonwealth of Virginia.	Not Applicable	
Communicable Disease Permit	Permit required to move the corpse to out-of-state/out-of-country by Health Dept.	Not Applicable	

**Note:**  
After you click on PrintNow link, respective document opens in a new window in PDF format. Print window pops-up when you try to print this document. On the Print window, make sure you select "Actual size" under Page Sizing.

**EDIPRE**



# Click the “L” link

VVESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1 x)

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links

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Case#: 242; Decedent: TOO, SLOW

### Death Registration Menu

- Demographics
- Medical Certification
  - Place of Death
  - Determination of Death
  - Cause of Death
  - Other Factors
  - Certification
  - Assign to Funeral Home
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- Logout

### Cremation Certificate Request

**Requester Details**

Facility Name: WOODY FUNERAL HOME (ATLEE)  
Address: ATLEE CHAPEL 9271 SHADY GROVE ROAD MECHANICSVILLE VIRGINIA 23116

**Decedent Details**

First Name: TOO  
Last Name: SLOW  
Age:  
Gender: MALE

Middle Name:  
Maiden Name:  
Date Of Death: 12/12/2013

**Decedent Race**

☐ White ☐ Black Or African American ☐ Chinese ☐ Japanese ☐ Native Hawaiian ☐ Filipino ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Korean ☐ Samoan ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Guamanian Or Chamorro ☐ American Indian Or Alaska Native Tribe(S)  
☐ Oth.Asian Or Pac.Islander ☐ Other Asian Specify ☐ Other Pacific Islander Specify ☐ Other Specify ☐ Unknown

**Medical Examiner**

Name of Medical Examiner:  **L**

Medical Examiner's Facility:

**Status**

Status

**EDICCR**



# Select your name from the list

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1 x)

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links

**Electronic Death Registration System**

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

Case#: 242; Decedent: TOO, SLOW

**Death Registration Menu**

- Demographics
- Medical Certification
  - Place of Death
  - Determination of Death
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  - Certification
  - Assign to Funeral Home
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- EDRS Menu
- Logout

**Cremation Certificate Request**

Requester Details

Facility Name: List of Medical Examiners - Google Chrome

Address: https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_cremation.lme\_lov?p\_lme\_id=0&p\_cremation\_approval=Y

Decedent Data

First Name: Last Name: OCME District:

Search criterion for Medical Examiners:

First Name: % Last Name: % OCME District: %

Find Close

Name	Facility	Title	County
<b>Local Medical Examiner Listing</b>			
CENT_LME_1 CENT_LME_1	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT		RICHMOND
CENT_LME_2 CENT_LME_2	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
CENT_LME_3 CENT_LME_3	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
CENT_LME_4 CENT_LME_4	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
CENT_LME_5 CENT_LME_5	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
KENT_FOLSOM	OCME - WESTERN DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	ROANOKE COUNTY
LEAH_BUSH	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
MARY_ANN_HOLLMAN	OCME - WESTERN DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	ROANOKE COUNTY
NORT_LME_1 NORT_LME_1	OCME - NORTHERN DISTRICT		MANASSAS
NORT_LME_2 NORT_LME_2	OCME - NORTHERN DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	MANASSAS
TIDE_LME_1 TIDE_LME_1	OCME - TIDEWATER DISTRICT		NORFOLK
TIDE_LME_2 TIDE_LME_2	OCME - TIDEWATER DISTRICT	Funeral Home Director	NORFOLK
WEST_LME_1 WEST_LME_1	OCME - WESTERN DISTRICT		ROANOKE COUNTY
WEST_LME_2 WEST_LME_2	OCME - WESTERN DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	ROANOKE COUNTY
<b>District Medical Examiner Listing</b>			
ANKUR_FADIA	OCME - WESTERN DISTRICT	Medical Examiner	ROANOKE COUNTY
CENT_ME_1 CENT_ME_1	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
CENT_ME_2 CENT_ME_2	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
CENT_ME_3 CENT_ME_3	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND
CENT_ME_4 CENT_ME_4	OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT	Medical Doctor	RICHMOND

12/12/2013

an Indian Or Alaska Native Tribe(S)

**EDICCR**

# Your name is populated, select Request Cremation

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1 x)

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links

**Electronic Death Registration System**

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

Case#: 242; Decedent: TOO, SLOW

**Death Registration Menu**

- Demographics
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Gender: MALE  
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**Decedent Race**

☐ White ☐ Black Or African American ☐ Chinese ☐ Japanese ☐ Native Hawaiian ☐ Filipino ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Korean ☐ Samoan ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Guamanian Or Chamorro ☐ American Indian Or Alaska Native Tribe(S)  
☐ Oth.Asian Or Pac.Islander ☐ Other Asian Specify ☐ Other Pacific Islander Specify ☐ Other Specify ☐ Unknown

**Medical Examiner**

Name of Medical Examiner: CENT\_LME\_1 CENT\_LME\_1  
400 E JACKSON ST RICHMOND VIRGINIA 23219

Medical Examiner's Facility:

**Status**

Status

Request Cremation Undo

EDICCR

# Go back to EDRS main menu and finish the approval process

VESTS 3.7.3.2 (User: CENT\_LME\_1) x +

https://kobe.vdh.virginia.gov/edrsbeta/edr\_frame.links

**VDH** VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Protecting You and Your Environment

## Electronic Death Registration System

User: Cent\_Lme\_1 Cent\_Lme\_1(CENT\_LME\_1)  
Facility: Ocme - Central District

### Death Registration Menu

- Search All Cases
- Active Cases
- Cremation Approval
- Fetal Cremation Approval
- User Preferences
- Message Center
- EDRS Menu
- VESTS Menu
- Logout

### Recent Active Cases

#### Local Medical Examiner Cases

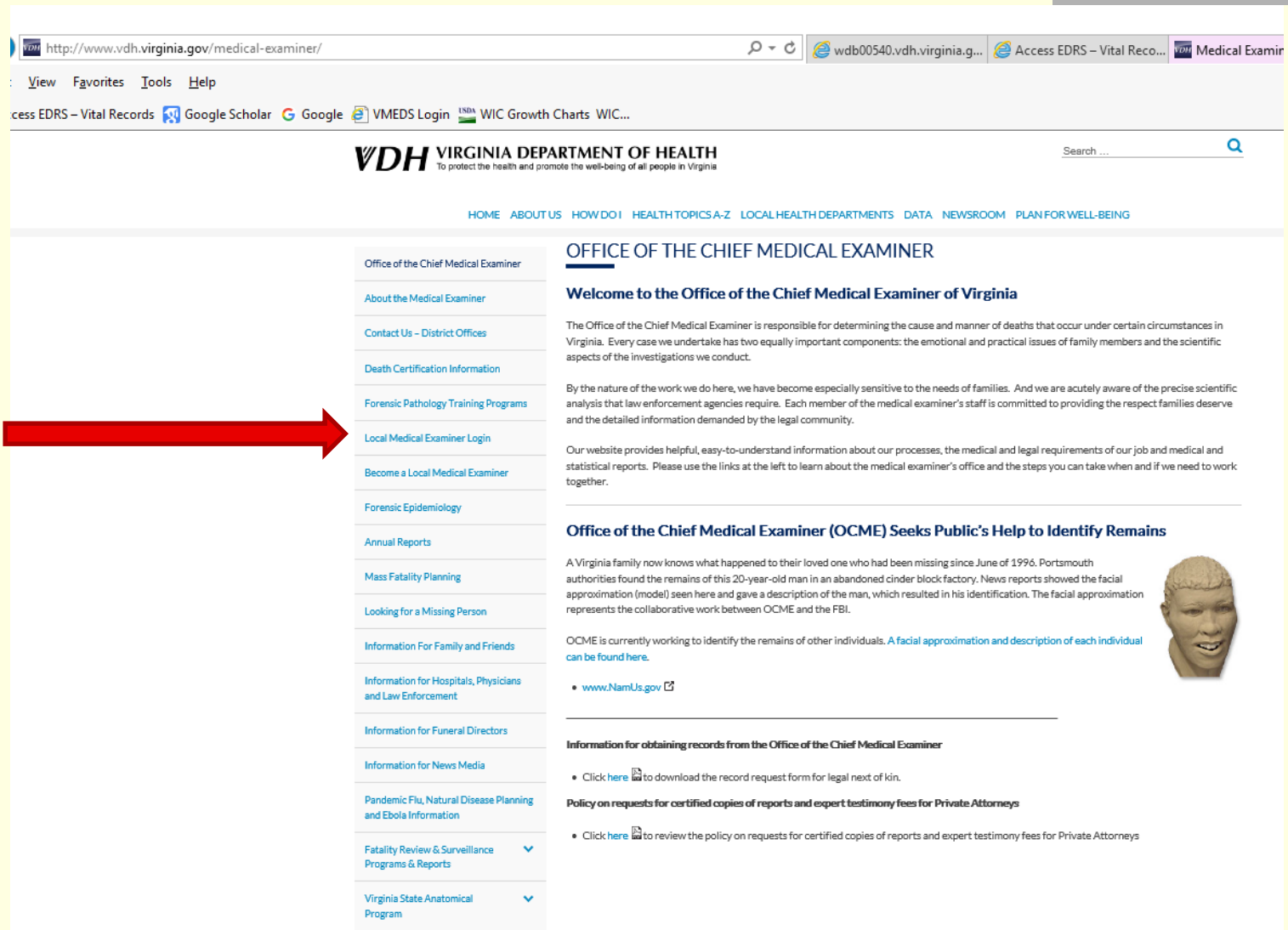
Case ID	Case Type	Decedent Name			Gender	DOB	DOD	Current Owner	Status
		First	Middle	Last					
<a href="#">1347</a>	RB - LME	SHELBY	DIANE	DUNSTON	FEMALE		08/02/2017	WOODY (SOUTH) FUNERAL HOME	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">56</a>	RB - LME	CHEER		LEADER	FEMALE		06/05/2013	WOODY (SOUTH) FUNERAL HOME	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">296</a>	RB - LME	SNOOPY		DOG	MALE		04/15/2014	BENNETT & BARDEN FUNERAL HOME, INC.	Personal Information Sign - Requested
<a href="#">1155</a>	RB - LME	BILL		BUMMER	MALE		04/10/2014	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Certification In-progress
<a href="#">1105</a>	RB - LME	SALLY		JOHNSON	FEMALE		02/08/2015	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Information Certified
<a href="#">1128</a>	RB - LME	BARNEY		STINSON	MALE		03/04/2015	CENT_LME_1 (OCME - CENTRAL DISTRICT)	Medical Certification Requested
<a href="#">242</a>	RB - LME	TOO		SLOW	MALE		12/12/2013	WOODY FUNERAL HOME (ATLEE)	Personal Information Sign - Requested
<a href="#">130</a>	RB - LME	ROWDY		YATES	MALE		06/10/2013	XYZ FUNERAL HOME (WEST END)	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">721</a>	RB - LME	PURPLE		PENGUIN	MALE		10/14/2014	XYZ FUNERAL HOME (SOUTHSIDE)	Personal Information Completion In-progress
<a href="#">281</a>	RB - LME	TITAN		DUKE	MALE	11/20/1925	04/15/2014	HAMLAR-CURTIS FUNERAL HOME, INC.	Personal Information Completion In-progress

1 - 10 of 24 Click Active Cases for Complete list

**EDVHOM**

5:31 AM 10/5/2018

# LME internal site



The screenshot shows the VDH website with the URL <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medical-examiner/>. The page features a navigation bar with links like 'View', 'Favorites', 'Tools', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER' and includes a welcome message and information about the office's responsibilities. A sidebar on the left contains a list of links, with 'Local Medical Examiner Login' highlighted by a red arrow. The sidebar also includes links for 'Forensic Pathology Training Programs', 'Death Certification Information', 'Contact Us - District Offices', 'About the Medical Examiner', 'Forensic Epidemiology', 'Annual Reports', 'Mass Fatality Planning', 'Looking for a Missing Person', 'Information For Family and Friends', 'Information for Hospitals, Physicians and Law Enforcement', 'Information for Funeral Directors', 'Information for News Media', 'Pandemic Flu, Natural Disease Planning and Ebola Information', 'Fatality Review & Surveillance Programs & Reports', and 'Virginia State Anatomical Program'.

http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medical-examiner/

View Favorites Tools Help

Access EDRS - Vital Records Google Scholar Google VMEDS Login USDA WIC Growth Charts WIC...

**VDH** VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
To protect the health and promote the well-being of all people in Virginia

Search ...

HOME ABOUT US HOW DO I HEALTH TOPICS A-Z LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS DATA NEWSROOM PLAN FOR WELL-BEING

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**

**Welcome to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Virginia**

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is responsible for determining the cause and manner of deaths that occur under certain circumstances in Virginia. Every case we undertake has two equally important components: the emotional and practical issues of family members and the scientific aspects of the investigations we conduct.

By the nature of the work we do here, we have become especially sensitive to the needs of families. And we are acutely aware of the precise scientific analysis that law enforcement agencies require. Each member of the medical examiner's staff is committed to providing the respect families deserve and the detailed information demanded by the legal community.

Our website provides helpful, easy-to-understand information about our processes, the medical and legal requirements of our job and medical and statistical reports. Please use the links at the left to learn about the medical examiner's office and the steps you can take when and if we need to work together.

**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) Seeks Public's Help to Identify Remains**

A Virginia family now knows what happened to their loved one who had been missing since June of 1996. Portsmouth authorities found the remains of this 20-year-old man in an abandoned cinder block factory. News reports showed the facial approximation (model) seen here and gave a description of the man, which resulted in his identification. The facial approximation represents the collaborative work between OCME and the FBI.

OCME is currently working to identify the remains of other individuals. A [facial approximation and description of each individual can be found here](#).

- [www.NamUs.gov](http://www.NamUs.gov)

**Information for obtaining records from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner**

- Click [here](#) to download the record request form for legal next of kin.

**Policy on requests for certified copies of reports and expert testimony fees for Private Attorneys**

- Click [here](#) to review the policy on requests for certified copies of reports and expert testimony fees for Private Attorneys

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

About the Medical Examiner

Contact Us - District Offices

Death Certification Information

Forensic Pathology Training Programs

Local Medical Examiner Login

Become a Local Medical Examiner

Forensic Epidemiology

Annual Reports

Mass Fatality Planning

Looking for a Missing Person

Information For Family and Friends

Information for Hospitals, Physicians and Law Enforcement

Information for Funeral Directors

Information for News Media

Pandemic Flu, Natural Disease Planning and Ebola Information

Fatality Review & Surveillance Programs & Reports

Virginia State Anatomical Program

# LME site – password protected

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- Forms: body diagram, cremation certificate, death scene investigation, tox data sheet, scene placard
- Postmortem specimen collection kit: instructions
- Education & training materials: training checklist, photographing death scenes, instructions for deaths scene investigation report
- Upcoming training & conference information

# Working with Medicolegal Death Investigators

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- Intake new cases & inquiries from LME, LEA, hospitals, funeral homes, family members, OPO's, etc
- Coordinate OPO recovery
- Assist in identification
- Obtain supporting documentation for the ME investigation, follow up investigation
- Scene investigation, doll scene reenactments
- Take in bodies
- Pathologist should be available for consultation

# When to notify OCME immediately

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- Declared disaster
  - Weather related, special events
- Covert burial
- Public health interest
  - Emerging infectious disease
  - Contact treatment
- Mass fatality

# Proper Identification

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- Investigative agency plan on identifying the remains?
  - Scene investigation
  - Enlist family & associates to identify medical & dental information
  - Notify district office
    - Provide demographics
- Forensic Methods – Fingerprints (SID number), X-ray, Dental, DNA comparison
- Visual – facial, body features
- Circumstantial



# Unidentified or Skeletal Remains

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- Terms such as “John Doe,” “Jane Doe,” or “Baby Doe” are not used.
- Use of “BTB” or “PTB”
- List based on sex, race, and location.
  - Unidentified Black Male, 1234 Colley Ave, Norfolk.
- If the remains are skeletal, are they human?

# Surveillance and Review

Family and Intimate Partner Homicide  
*Virginia, 2008*



Poison-R  
Attempt  
Complete  
in Virgin

2003-20

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Health  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner  
Office of Family Health Services, I  
September, 2009

A REPORT FROM THE  
VIRGINIA

MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW TEAM

OBESE AND MATERNAL  
DEATH IN VIRGINIA

Child Deaths from Heat-Related  
Motor Vehicle Entrapment

a report from the  
VIRGINIA STATE CHILD FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

March • 2009

Virginia Department of Health  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

June, 2009



- Family and Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance
- Virginia Violent Death Reporting System
- Child Fatality Review
  - State and local
- Maternal Mortality Review
  - All sudden, unexpected deaths of pregnant or recently pregnant women should be referred to the district office for possible autopsy
- Family and Intimate Partner Violence Fatality Review

# Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Annual Report 2016



Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Health  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 2016  
Compiled by Kathrin 'Rosie' Hobron, MPH  
March 2018

# Any Questions?

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